

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00976 121348Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0976

EXDIS

FOR COUNSELOR NIMITZ AND EUR/ASST SEC VEST ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, IS, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S VISIT TO UNITED STATES TO ATTEND
UNITED NATION'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION

1. DURING MY FIRST SUBSTANTIVE CALL ALONE ON FOREIGN MINISTER
ROLANDIS APRIL 11, I HANDED HIM THE SIGNED ORIGINAL LETTER FROM
PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND PROCEEDED TO EXPLAIN
TO HIM THE DISCREPANCY IN TEXT AS COMPARED TO THE ADVANCE COPY
THAT HAD EARLIER BEEN CONVEYED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER BY CHARGE'.
I FURTHER CLARIFIED OMISSION OF REFERENCE TO "NEAR FUTURE"
BY FOLLOWING CLOSELY GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN STATE 83900.

2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO SAID HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY AND
PRIVATELY, RECALLED THAT PLANS WERE NOW DEFINITE FOR HIM AND
PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU TO GO TO NEW YORK FOR THE U.S. GENERAL
ASSEMBLY'S SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT FROM MAY 23 UNTIL
JUNE 10. IT WAS EXPECTED THAT A NUMBER OF OTHER HEADS OF STATE
WOULD BE ATTENDING THIS MEETING AND DURING THIS PERIOD, PRESIDENT
KYPRIANOU WOULD BE MEETING WITH THEM. HE SPECIFICALLY CITED THE
POSSIBILITY OF MEETINGS WITH BREZHNEV, CEAUSESCU, AND TITO.
NOTE: IT WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR TO ME THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS
WILL DEFINITELY BE ATTENDING THE SPECIAL SESSION BUT I GATHER
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THAT, AT A MINIMUM, FEELERS HAD GONE OUT TO ARRANGE FOR POSSIBLE
MEETINGS. ON HIS RETURN TO CYPRUS PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU TENTATIVELY
PLANS TO MADE VISITS TO LONDON, BONN, PARIS AND ATHENS.

3. ROLANDIS CONTINUED THAT HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY
UNFORTUNATE IF, DURING THE SEVENTEEN DAYS THAT PRESIDENT
KYPRIANOU WOULD BE IN THE UNITED STATES, HE WERE UNABLE TO AT

LEAST HAVE A VERY BRIEF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. HE CAST HIS CONCERN ENTIRELY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GRIST THAT WOULD BE GIVEN THE LEFTIST PRESS IF THERE WERE A SITUATION WHERE PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU CALLED ON A NUMBER OF COMMUNIST LEADERS BUT WAS UNABLE TO CALL ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO MAKE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE UN AND THE US TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN IN CYPRUS.

4. AT THIS POINT I TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT I HAD ALREADY EXPLORED IN WASHINGTON BEFORE MY DEPARTURE THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME FUTURE MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND THAT I WOULD BE LESS THAN FRANK IF I DID NOT TELL HIM THAT THE REACTIONS I HAD RECEIVED LED ME TO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR SUCH A MEETING TO BE ARRANGED. I TOLD HIM OF MY OWN EFFORT DURING MY PREVIOUS CAPACITY AS RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE IAEA TO ARRANGE FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE IAEA TO CALL ON PRESIDENT CARTER. IN THIS EFFORT I HAD HAD THE FULL SUPPORT OF AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE, GERARD SMITH. DESPITE HIS BEST EFFORT, IT HAD NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE FOR A CALL. I REMINDED HIM THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE AND TOLD HIM I BELIEVED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WAS WORKING HARDER AT HIS JOB THAN ANY PRESIDENT WE HAD HAD IN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS. THIS MEANT THAT HIS TIME WAS AT AN ABSOLUTE PREMIUM.

5. ROLANDIS AGAIN STRESSING HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY SAID THAT WHAT WAS NEEDED COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A VERY BRIEF VISIT.
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HE MENTIONED 15 MINUTES OR HALF AN HOUR OR EVEN A "DRINK" AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE AND THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE PREPARED TO FLY TO WASHINGTON FOR SUCH A MEETING. HE SAID HE HOPED THAT XIF SUCH A MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED FOR THE PRESIDENT, THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR ROLANDIS TO HAVE MORE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

6. COMMENT: I APPRECIATE THAT I AM NOT PASSING EITHER OF YOU AN EASY REQUEST BY SUPPORTING THE FOREIGN MINISTER. IN THE CONTEXT OF U.S. POLICY AND ACTIONS AIMED AT ACHIEVING A CYPRUS SOLUTION, HOWEVER, KYPRIANOU CAN PLAY A SPOILER'S ROLE. A MEETING OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS WOULD NOT CHANGE KYPRIANOU'S STAND AGAINST LIFTING THE EMBARGO. IT WOULD IMPRESS ON HIM THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING HIS POLICY OF MODERATE OPPOSITION. IT COULD ALSO INFLUENCE HIM TO BE MORE POSITIVE IN HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKISH CYPRIOTS. AT THIS POINT I AM PREPARED TO BELIEVE PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S PROTESTATIONS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO HIS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND I AM CONVINCED THAT EVEN A VERY BRIEF MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS COULD CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF U.S. POLICY GOALS.
END COMMENT.

7. PLEASE ADVISE.
STONE

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